Abolition Licences for Agricultural Industries

541. SHRI P UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kissan Coordination Committee has demanded abolition of all licencing requirements for agricultural industries and all restrictions, including quotas and canalisations, on agricultural exports; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to meet the demands of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government have taken a number of steps for abolition of licencing requirements and rationalisation of export procedures. The recent amendments to the trade policy (1992—97) announced on 31-3-1993 have further liberalised trade policies pertaining to agricultural exports.

Plan strategy for Agriculture

542. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan strategy for agriculture include that agriculture scientists move nearer to the farmers fields so that the reverse communication from the land to lab becomes really effectives and emphasis on water management; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Sir, Agricultural Scientists are closely working with farmers by organising field demonstrations, training, field days and adaptive trials on various aspects of agriculture including water management. Scientific information thus generated from the fields (land) are passed on to the research laboratories (labs) of State Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutes as a feed back (reverse communication). Progressive farmers are also invited to the universities/institutes to interact with Scientists through lectures and seminars. This also provide feed-back to the researchers.

Starvation conditions in Orissa

543. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the implementation of the remedial measures taken both by the Central and State Government agencies with regard to the scarcity and starvation conditions in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir, Phulbani and Koraput in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the reasons for the unsatisfactory progress, if any, in carrying out the relief programme; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) The implementation of various drought relief measures is being reviewed continuously by the Central and State Government of Orissa with regard to drought conditions prevailing in the State, particularly in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and